

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawings include changes to Figures 4 and 5A. The sheet containing Figure 4 replaces the original sheet including Figure 4. The sheet containing Figures 5A-5C replaces the original sheet including Figures 5A-5C.

In the Office Action at Item 1, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In order to overcome these objections, replacement figures are submitted herewith. In Figure 4, we substituted the term --NUMBER-- for the term "INFORMATION" in the block "b23 - b0." In Figure 5A, we substituted the term --CURRENT -- for the term "NEXT." For the convenience of the Examiner, annotated sheets showing the changes made is also attached. Approval of these changes to the drawings is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

The Office Action objects to the drawings and rejects claims 1-5 and 10-18. Claims 6, 7, 19-21 and 23 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. The Office Action indicates that claims 8, 9 and 22 are in condition for allowance.

Figures 4-5A and claims 1, 3, 4, and 5 are amended, and claim 2 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-23 are pending in the present application, and claims 1, 3-5, 8-18 and 22 are under consideration.

The rejections are traversed below, and reconsideration of all rejected claims is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action indicates that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has not received replacement drawings for Figures 4 and 5A to obviate the objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) raised in the May 7, 2004 Office Action. Applicants attach a Replacement Sheet containing Figure 4 and a Replacement Sheet containing Figures 5A-5C. In addition, for the convenience of the Examiner, two Annotated Sheets showing the changes made to Figures 4 and 5A are attached. Approval of these changes to the drawings and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1-5 and 10-18 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5 and 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,442,128 to Lee et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Lee").

Lee does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "each sector has a main data area, and dummy data is recorded in the main area of the sector in which the information recorded in the data identification area indicates that the recorded data is linking data," as recited in amended claim 1. Therefore, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 patentably distinguishes from the cited reference.

Further, claims 3-5 and 10-18 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of that claim plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by the cited reference. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-5 and 10-18 also patentably distinguish over the cited reference.

Summary

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-18 and 22 are pending and under consideration. It is respectfully submitted that Lee does not disclose the present claimed invention. There being no further outstanding objections and rejections, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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ANNOTATED SHEET

TITLE: RECORDING MEDIUM STORING ...

GROUP ART UNIT: 2652

SERIAL NO.: 09/976,277

DOCKET NO.: 1293.1269



FIG. 4

b31	b24 b23	b0				
b31	SECTOR INFORMATION	SECTOR INFORMATION NUMBER				
	b30	b29	b28	b27	b26	b25
	b31	b30	b29	b28	b27	b26
	SECTOR FORMAT TYPE	TRACKING METHOD	REFLECTANCE	RESERVE	AREA TYPE	DATA TYPE
						NUMBER OF LAYERS

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FIG. 5A

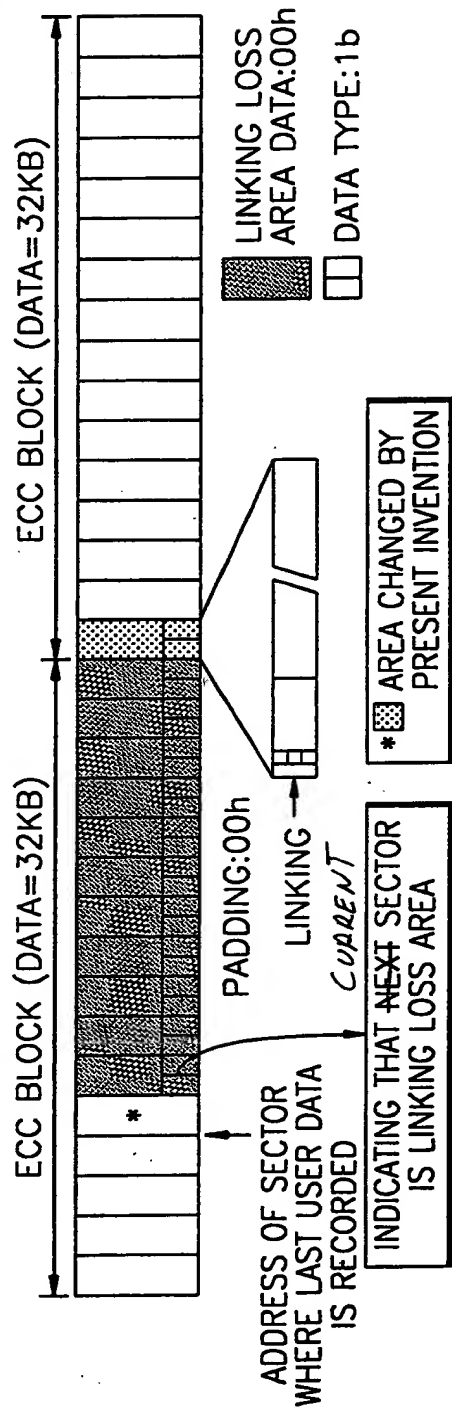


FIG. 5B

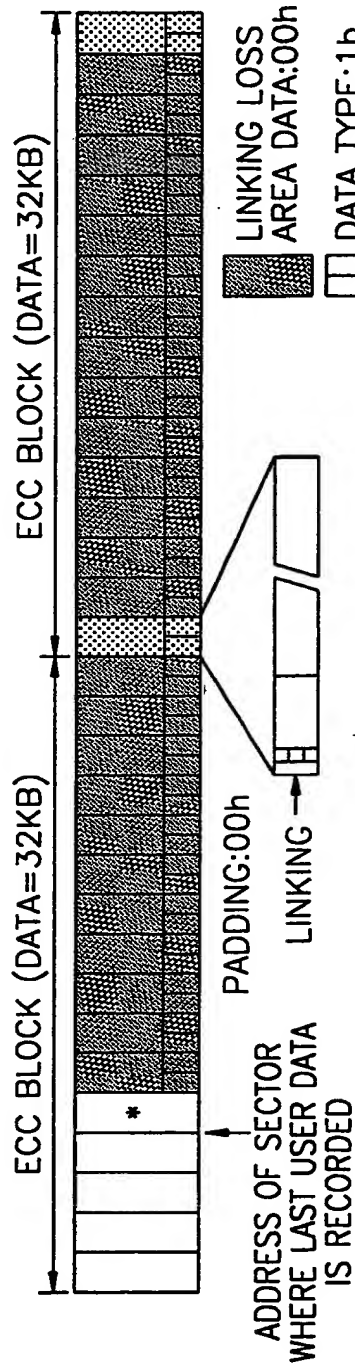


FIG. 5C

